

REMARKS

Claims 1-28 are currently pending. Claims 1, 2, and 4-20, and 23 have been rejected. Applicants' representative notes with appreciation the allowance of claims 21 and 24-28 and the Examiner's indication that claims 2 and 13 also contain allowable matter. In the interest of advancing the prosecution of the application, claims 1 and 12 have been amended to recite matter indicated as allowable in the Final Office Action. Claim 14 has also been amended to correct its dependency in light of the amendment to claim 12, and claim 23 has been amended to correct a dependency error pointed out in the Final Office Action. Claims 2, 4-11, and 13 have been cancelled. It is respectfully submitted that this Amendment merely places matter deemed allowable in independent form and corrects a formal error in claim 23. It is thus respectfully requested that this Amendment be entered, as it is understood from the Examiner's comments in the Final Office Action that the proposed Amendment will place the application in condition for allowance.

I. Rejection of Claim 23 Under 35 U.S.C. §112

Claim 23 was rejected as indefinite for improperly depending from itself. The claim has been amended to depend from claim 21, and it is respectfully requested that the rejection of this claim be withdrawn.

II. Rejection of Claims 1, 12, and 14-20 Under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

A. Claim 1

Claim 1 has been amended to recite a computer readable medium containing executable instructions for performing the method of claim 21. Since claim 21 is

currently allowed, it is respectfully submitted that claim 1 is allowable for the same reasons.

B. Claims 12 and 14-20

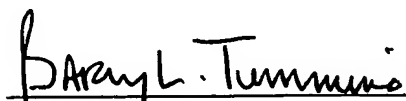
Claim 12 has been amended to recite the iterative method recited in claim 13, which was indicated as allowable. Claims 14-20 depend, directly or indirectly, from claim 12, and should be allowable for at least the same reasons. It is thus respectfully submitted that claims 12 and 14-20 are allowable over the cited art, and withdrawal of the rejection of these claims is respectfully requested.

III. Conclusion

In view of the foregoing amendment and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that claims 1, 12, 14-20, 21, and 23-28 define over the cited art. Withdrawal of the rejection of the claims and the passage of the application to issue is therefore requested.

Please charge any deficiency or credit any overpayment in the fees for this
matter to our Deposit Account No. 20-0090.

Respectfully submitted,


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